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MATERIALS DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT

4 February 1958

TO : Chief, Materials Division

FROM : Chief, Nonferrous Metals and Minerals Branch

BRANCH: M/NF

Report for the Month of January 1958

I. Accomplishments

A. Completed ORR Project 20.1515, NIS Section 63, Metals and Minerals in Czechoslovakia, and forwarded same in four copies to OBI.

B. Evaluated the principal reports in the field of nonferrous metals and minerals prepared by [REDACTED] for the period 1 July - 30 September 57. 25X1A2g

C. Evaluated Special intelligence material for the last quarter of 1957. The evaluation is to be included in a report to the DCI.

D. Prepared detailed requirements for:

1. Agricultural-Industrial Exhibitions at which USSR products are displayed.

2. Nonferrous metallurgical construction data in Communist China (Special).

3. New Town Brief Irkutsk (#209).

25X1A8a 4. [REDACTED] support in locating a suitable consultant on aluminum for M/NF.

II. Program - Nothing to report (See Section IV).

III. Administration

A. Personnel - Nothing to report.

B. Branch structure - Nothing to report.

C. Training

25X1A9a 1. [REDACTED] - Advanced typing. Agency Course.

25X1A9a 2. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] - Economic Geography of the Soviet Bloc. Agency Course. 25X1A9a

25X1A9a 3. [REDACTED] - Nonsponsored training in Basic Shorthand at Northwestern High School in Hyattsville, Maryland.

25X1A9a 4. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] - Basic Russian. 25X1A9a

D. Travel, briefings, meetings, etc.

25X1A9a 1. [REDACTED] 25X1A5a1

25X1A5a1 [REDACTED] debriefed members of [REDACTED] at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, 6 - 7 January 1958.

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2. [REDACTED] toured the American Smelting and Refining Co's plant in Baltimore. The trip was arranged by OCR/IR.

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3. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] attended a meeting of the EIC Subcommittee on Metals and Minerals on 31 January 1958.

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4. [REDACTED] a member of the Library's committee on Reference, attended several meetings of the committee and has interviewed some 20 DD/I and DD/S personnel who have requested bibliographies.

IV. Comments

The major problem facing the Branch continues to be the paucity of information on nonferrous metals and minerals in the Sino-Soviet Bloc. Because of this, we have to spend an inordinate amount of analyst time to develop sound estimates of even the most primary types, i.e., national output estimates in tonnage terms. With the existing manpower in the Branch, we are far from current in discharging this basic responsibility.

Within the next few months the Branch is scheduled to turn in its contributions to four projects on the USSR. Three of these are Materials Division Projects -- Regional Consumption of Petroleum in the USSR (20.1768), Electric Power Consumption in the USSR (20.1881), and The Role of the Soviet Raw Material and Energy Base in Soviet Economic Growth (20.1776) -- and the fourth is a D/A Project -- Index of Industrial Production in the USSR (10.2029). The petroleum and electric power consumption projects require this branch to estimate inputs of petroleum and electric power into the nonferrous industry in the USSR. In the first place, no primary data are available; and in the second place even resorting to simple analogies would not be rational because we have not analyzed enough information to prepare acceptable output estimates for some of the important commodities like lead and zinc. The same holds true for the raw materials project. Therefore, the Nonferrous Branch will not be able to contribute meaningfully to these projects.

The D/A project on the industrial index is a somewhat similar situation. Although we have made some estimates of the output of some of the important nonferrous metals and minerals in the USSR, these by no means could be construed to represent the entire nonferrous industry. At best, therefore, our contribution will be fractional. Inasmuch as rather complete data are available on other sectors of the Soviet economy, it might be advisable for D/A to limit its index to those sectors and not try to incorporate such incomplete data as that submitted by the Nonferrous Branch.

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RR/M/NF/ [REDACTED] sca/2031 (4 Feb 58)

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